

Deborah.Easterling

239077

From: Deborah.Easterling
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2012 11:51 AM
To: 'Stephen Johnson'
Subject: RE: Protest_Letter

Dear Mr. Johnson,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your email to the Public Service Commission. I am forwarding your email and Letter of Protest to our Clerk's Office for processing. Your email and Letter of Protest will become a part of Docket No. 2012-177-WS and will be posted on our website under this docket.

Please let me know if you should require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Deborah Easterling
Administrative Assistant

From: Stephen Johnson [<mailto:SBror@comporium.net>]
Sent: Saturday, September 08, 2012 11:04 AM
To: PSC_Contact
Subject: Protest_Letter

Protest_Letter

The attached file is the filled-out form. Please open it to review the data.

RECEIVED

PSC CC
MAIL / DMS



* Required Fields

Letter of Protest
in Docket 2012 - 177 - ws

Print

Email

Date: * September 8, 2012

Protestant Information:

Name * Stephen B. Johnson

Mailing Address * 4002 Windward Drive

City, State Zip * Tega Cay, SC 29708 Phone * 803 389 3871

E-mail sbror@comporium.net

1. What is your connection or interest in this case? * For example, are you a customer of the Company that is the subject of this pending proceeding? (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

I am a customer of Tega Cay Water. I have also been a "Covekeeper" associated with the Riverkeeper, and as a volunteer have observed the performance of Tega Cay Water over some years.

2. Please give a concise statement of your protest. * (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

The history of compliance to regulations by DHEC reveals some chronic failures of management:

1. In the discharge permit 2005-2010, the company was given three years in which to upgrade its treatment of phosphorous discharges; in the remaining two years, this had not been done, and the company was fined \$60,000 for non-compliance. I assume that the company had included upgrading costs in their rate application in those years, and I have to suppose that the \$60,000 fine was merely included in company expenses which have to be paid by we consumers. The investors didn't have to take a cut in their profit, did they?
2. Because of non-compliance, DHEC withhold issuance of the new five year permit for some months, until compliance was achieved.
3. Meanwhile, sewer spills had been occurring at a rate of 10-15 per year, and citizen outcry resulted in a public meeting with DHEC and Tega Cay Water hired an outside firm to analyze the problems and report a need for many repairs. It seems to me that with a maintenance director on site over these years, it should have been obvious as to what was needed, and do it. Now they propose that extensive repairs have to be made...repairs that should have been routine, and presumably would have been covered as expenses during the previous rates.
4. My conclusion is that Tega Cay Water is a poorly managed utility, simply passing on its problems to the customers while maintaining a profitable dividend rate for its investors.

3. Do you wish to make an appearance at a hearing in this proceeding, if scheduled, and offer sworn testimony? *

Yes, I will be present at the hearing on September 13 in Tega Cay.